

News from the Home Field.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

LUNENBURG.—*Presentation to Rev. H. L. Owen, Rector of Lunenburg.*—On Saturday, December 23rd, the Rev. Mr. Owen was presented by a number of his friends and parishioners with the Hood or Badge of the Doctor's Degree, it being designed as a birth-day gift, the anniversary of which would occur on the next day. The hood and address were presented by a committee of ladies at the Rectory, and the hood was seen for the first time on Sunday, the 24th, being the Rector's birth-day.

Rev. Henry L. Owen, Rector and Rural Dean.—Very Dear Sir,—With deep feelings of thankfulness and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for having placed you over and continued you to us as our pastor and friend for so many years; with the utmost respect and sincerest affection, and with the consciousness that your high intellectual attainments, your deep learning and ability in your profession richly entitled you to the distinction, we take heartfelt pleasure in presenting you with the written testimony of your having lately, at our cost and instance, had conferred upon you by your University the degree of Divinitatis Doctor, and in asking your acceptance of the Hood or Badge thereof, and with the fervent prayer that you may speedily be restored to your usual health, and may be spared to wear this mark of distinction, and fill the position to the calls and responsibilities of which you have ever so zealously and faithfully responded.

We remain, Rev. and Dear Sir,
Yours affectionately,
A number of your attached

PARISHIONERS.

To which the Rev. recipient gave the following reply:

To the friends and parishioners who have united in presenting me to-day with the Hood or Badge of the degree of Divinitatis Doctor, conferred on me Monday, 18th inst., by the University of King's College, Windsor.

BELOVED FRIENDS,—When in the month of June, 1852, I became Rector of this Parish, I could not have supposed that my term of ministry among you would be extended beyond that of any of the nine clergymen who had preceded me here. Thirty years of happiness they have been to me, and the happier as the term has grown longer.

In the comparative silence resulting from my weakness of voice after a ministry of fifty years, I have been learning to apply to myself the doctrines and truths which in all the fluctuations incident to life, especially to the Christian life, I have brought before you in your beautiful church and in your homes, and I think I am able to testify that the bridge which spans the interval between earth and the Great White Throne, and which from God's Word I have asked you to trust, is able to bear you with all your interests and cares in life, and your need in death, and to land you safely on God's eternal shore.

Yet while I say this, the language of your address humbles and almost pains me. While you appear to see only the best and brightest parts of my ministry among you, I cannot myself be inaccessible to the infirmities I have felt, and sometimes manifested.

You seem to have buried my defects in the depths of your love, and to have brought the better portions into the sunshine, clothing them with a brightness which appears on them, if not from them. I bless you for the mantle with which you thus invest my ministry, more precious to me than the beautiful symbol of the Doctor's Degree.

As regards the reference to my scholarship I can truly say that in my teaching I have not offered you what has cost me nothing. I have tried to prepare my sermons for you, less with ink, than with the spirit of the Living God; and I have endeavoured so to preach them that you might feel that He, not I, was speaking to you. Your words to me this day testify that I have not failed.

With heartfelt pleasure I accept this mark of distinction now presented to me, in addition to the

two preceding Degrees of M. A. and B. D., also conferred upon me at your cost.

And I remain
Your loving Pastor and friend,
HENRY L. OWEN.

St. John's Rectory, Lunenburg,
Dec. 23rd, 1882.

We join the many friends of the Doctor outside the limit of his own parish in heartily congratulating him upon his well deserved honors, and upon the affection with which the people evidently regard him after an unusually long incumbency.

AMHERST.—The Rev. Canon Townshend writes: "In justice to my people I must correct the Report of B. H. M. of the contributions from this parish for mission work for 1881. It states, 'Contributions for general purposes below last year.' On the contrary, if you will add the sum mentioned as given to the deficiency fund to the annual subscriptions, both of which are for the general purpose, you will see that the contributions from this parish for 1881 are in excess of previous years, and I think that the aid given to the deficiency fund ought in all fairness to have appeared in the list of subscriptions at the end of the report. Besides, my people have contributed liberally to the Algoma mission."

HALIFAX.—The members of the Church of England Institute will have opportunity to purchase the papers and magazines which are found on the tables from time to time during the year 1883. The sale of these will take place in the Reading Room on Thursday evening, 11th inst., at 8.30; and purchasers will receive them as they are removed to make room for later issues.

STELLARTON.—*Christ Church.* Our last number contained a short description of the Christmas service at the Chapel of Ease.—*St. Georges New Glasgow.* We have since heard that those at the Parish Church were also specially attractive. An unusually large congregation assembled on Christmas Eve, when the service was made particularly enjoyable by the addition of a number of voices to the choir. A good deal of hard practice had been got through, the result of which was highly satisfactory. The hymn "*Calm on the listening ear of night,*" gave a key note to the evening's devotions. On Christmas morning full service with celebration was held at 11 o'clock; (the early celebration took place at New Glasgow, the first, we understand, ever held there), and Evensong said at 7. Appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. F. J. J. Smith, *locum tenens.* The decorations deserve special notice. Excellent taste was displayed, and much time and labour spent upon by the ladies of the congregation. A white frontal, with sacred monogram in gold, gave the altar a chaste appearance. The dossal was of white with texts and designs in crimson and gold, the word EMMANUEL in the centre preaching a silent sermon on the great truth of the season. On both sides of the altar, crimson curtains, extending to the side walls, gave a warm and sober appearance to the sanctuary. Frontal, dossal and curtains were all made for the occasion. Immediately above the last named, in silver letters on a crimson ground, were the words "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given," equally divided by the altar and dossal. The sanctuary rail, prayer desks, choir stalls and lectern, were all beautifully decked with hemlock, maple leaves and ferns, the three forming a beautiful combination most pleasing to the eye. Offerings of exquisite flowers were made by several ladies of the congregation. Four vases and a cross of flowers stood on the altar. Two beautiful banners given by another lady, one with the words "Lamb of God," the other "Prince of Peace," occupied fitting places, one on each side of the chancel window. On the west wall of the nave, to the left of the chancel arch were the words "*The word was made Flesh,*" on the right "*And dwelt amongst us.*" Designs covered with ever green were hung along the North and South walls, and moss and ferns made the font beautiful.

Hemlock, maple leaves and ferns combined are very affective, and we can heartily recommend them to decorators. The first in the form of festoon etc.

is put in its place and the leaves and ferns stuck in afterwards. On Wednesday evening last the united Sunday Schools of Stellarton and New Glasgow held their festival in the temperance hall of the former place. The teachers, assisted by other kind ladies of the congregation provided a very excellent tea for the little ones, who enjoyed themselves right heartily. The Sons of Temperance very kindly allowed the use of their hall free of charge.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

GRAND MANAN.—The ladies of the Church of the Ascension, of North Head, held a tea meeting and sale on Thursday evening, December 21st 1882, from which they realized about three hundred and fifty dollars, of which sum they will probably have three hundred dollars or more clear of expenses, to reduce the debt upon the building, the interior of which still remains unfinished. Christmas trees have been very popular here this winter. Among the rest one at Grand Harbour, for the Sunday scholars of the parish Church, St. Paul's, was very attractive to the young people, specially interested. The commodious hall over the school rooms was kindly placed at the disposal of the Sunday scholars, and their friends, after which the presents—the fruit of the tree—were distributed. St. Paul's was neatly decorated with evergreen for the Christmas season. This Church which is built of stone, was erected in 1840, mainly by the exertions, at home and abroad, of the Rev. John Dunn and his indefatigable wife. It is by no means a pretentious structure, but is nevertheless a noble monument of the energy and devotion of Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, and those who lent them their aid. The young choir, recently organized in this church, gives hopeful signs of progress in musical attainment.

BAIE DU VIN.—The Missionary and his family are now residing in the new Rectory, which with the exception of being painted and having out-buildings is complete. He desires to return sincere thanks for those who so kindly contributed towards the building fund; \$115 having been received up to the present date, in response to his appeal for aid. On Christmas morning much to his surprise and gratification, a sled load of good things was left at the Rectory together with about ten dollars in money, as a token of the good will existing between Priest and people. On Christmas eve a children's service was held at the Church of St. John the Evangelist at 3 o'clock p. m. The missionary boxes, twelve in number were opened and the aggregate of the sums collected by the children for this half year amounted to \$20. A mite society has been in operation here since last September, and already \$14 has been collected and deposited in the Savings' Bank.

CLERICAL CONFERENCE.—(Concluded.)—Mr. H. W. Frith said that he desired merely to press home one single point in the splendid address of Rev. Mr. Murray. He would urge the need of special help for those wanting sympathy and fellowship. What numbers there are who meet with no spiritual sympathy whatever among their daily associates. If they come to Christ,—if they hear and see something to raise them out of their ordinary sort of worldliness,—if their hearts are touched, their minds impressed, their consciences awakened, what a pity that they should go back at once to the surroundings which will speedily drive out again all these better thoughts, when a few words of personal christian fellowship might encourage them, and help them to make a successful effort after better things. Sitting near the door at Trinity Church one Sunday evening he had seen a number of sailors who were evidently deeply interested and impressed by the sermon, and who left the Church with serious, thoughtful faces which showed that their hearts were touched. He could not help feeling what a pity it was that they should go back to their lodging places without any Christian friend to say a word to them after they went out of the Church, and to drive home the good impression they had received. We ourselves often assemble in family and friendly group after service. How great a blessing might it prove to many if there could be a